

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the present patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. This paper is accompanied by a Request for Continued Prosecution (RCE).

In this Amendment claims 14-16 and 18 are amended, claims 52-59 are added, and claims 10-13 and 43-46 are canceled (claims 1-9 and 23-27 were previously canceled). As a result, claims 14-22, 28-42 and 47-59 are now pending in the application, following the entry of this Amendment. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, for example, at pages 6-9, Fig. 1 and Fig. 3A among other places.

In the final Office Action of June 22, 2006 claims 10-22 and 45-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of U.S. Patent 5,945,988 (Williams) and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,263,502 (Morrison). Claims 28-44 and 48-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of Williams and further in view of U.S. Patent 5,389,963 (Lepley). It is respectfully requested that these rejections be withdrawn in view of the present amendments, and the claims be subjected to a full examination on the merits in accordance with the RCE filed in conjunction with this paper.

Deposit Account Authorization / Provisional Time Extension Petition

It is believed that no claim fees are due, in view of the canceled claims outnumber the newly added claims. This paper is accompanied by a Petition for a One Month Extension of time, which is believed to be sufficient. However, to the extent necessary, a petition for an additional extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 50-0439 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. However, in the event there are any unresolved issues, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact applicant's representative, Scott Richardson, by telephone at (571) 748-4765 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,



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